THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) (a) and (b) The estimated demand of coal, quantity and sources for Suratgarh and Kota Thermal Power Stations in the State of Rajasthan are as under:

(Figures in million tonnes per year)

Sl. No.	Power Stations	Demand	Source of Supply		Remarks
			Quantity	Source	
1.	Suratgarh TPS (1250 MW)	6.30	6.1 01 0.248 0.181	SECL NCL Import	Existing TPS. The quantity supplied is for the year 2006-07.
2.	Suratgarh Extn (250 MW)	1.25	1.25	SECL	Anticipated to be commissioned in 2008-09
3.	Kota TPS (1045 MW)	5.80	4.971 0.451 0.024	SECL NCL Import	Existing TPS. The quantity supplied is for the year 2006-07.
4.	Kota Extn (195 MW)	0.90	0.90	SECL	Anticipated to be commissioned in 2008-09

Quality of power supply

855. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Electricity Boards and the Discoms have, in their citizen charter, an assurance to supply quality power, without voltage fluctuations and disruptions;

(b) if so, whether any supervisory mechanism is in place, to monitor those assurances;

(c) the observations the monitoring body had made during 2005-06 and 2006-07 regarding the poor power situation in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the measures taken to address the problem?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Under Section 57 of the Electricity Act, 2003, the concerned State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC), in consultation with a Distribution Company (discom) is empowered to specify standards of performance. The Act also provides for constitution of a Forum for redressal of consumers' grievances by the Discom and for an Ombudsman to be appointed by the Regulatory Commission for setting the grievances not resolved in the Forum. In addition, some Discoms have also adopted Citizens' Charter assuring certain level of service.

(c) As per the information received from Andhra Pradesh, periodical observations on the monthly reports by Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission (APERC) since 2005-06 regarding poor power fluctuations in Andhra Pradesh are nil. However, it made an observation on the following issues:

(i) Response to normal fuse of calls;

(ii) Meter related complaints;

(iii) Billing mistakes; and

(iv) Category change and title transfer request.

(d) The various measures taken to address the problem of power fluctuations include commissioning of sub-stations, adding of new distribution transformers, commissioning of capacitor banks and reducing the length of feeder lines by inserting intermediate poles and distribution transformers etc.

Use of fly ash generated by Thermal Stations

856. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) thermal stations are generating nearly 34 MTA of fly ash per annum;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the fly ash comprises of un-burnt carbon, cenospheres, alumino-silicate aggregates, magnetite and/or hematite;

(c) whether all these constituents, if properly separated and recovered have commercial value and could give huge profits to NTPC which may help it to reduce the cost of power; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to start processing units by NTPC or by private operators?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) NTPC's thermal stations are generating nearly 39 million tonnes of fly ash per annum.

(b) Fly ash comprises of very low quantities of un-burnt carbon, cenospheres, quartz, mullite, magnetite and/or hematite.

(c) and (d) Presently, no techno-economically viable methods are available to separate these constituents from fly ash.

Investment ceiling of joint power ventures

857. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have moved a proposal to do away with the existing Rs. 1000 crore investment ceiling applicable to Public Sector Units for forming joint ventures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and